



IFW

S&H Form: (2/01)
Docket No. 122.1572

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yasushi HARA, et al.

Serial No: 10/724,293

Group Art Unit: 2875

Confirmation No. 1155

Filed: December 1, 2003

Examiner: Han, Jason

For: LIGHT-GUIDING PLATE, LIGHTING DEVICE AND DISPLAY DEVICE

**REQUEST FOR RETURN OF PROPERLY COMPLETED AND EXECUTED FORM PTO-1449
OF THE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILED MARCH 30, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed herein on March 30, 2004, and a copy thereof is attached hereto, along with a copy of the USPTO receipt postcard for same. This Information Disclosure Statement was acknowledged in the Notice of Allowability accompanying the Notice of Allowance herein and in Item 2 at page 2, in relation thereto, the statement appears:

Examiner has not considered the partial translations of the Japanese Publications, because they should be listed under "Foreign Patent Documents" along with copies of the foreign patent documents they pertain to.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner errs in this treatment of the March 30, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement and its citations.

The March 30, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement was designated to be a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement by checking of Item 8 and which expressly specified that the same was to supplement the Information Disclosure Statement filed December 1, 2003 - - and the request was made that the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be considered as if properly filed on December 1, 2003

and, thus, concurrently with the earlier - - and totally overlooked - - Information Disclosure Statement filed December 1, 2003.

The listing of the four "partial translations" of citations AG through AJ were specifically identified as being partial translations of the respective, four Japanese language documents. Thus, references AG, AH, AI, and AJ of the March 30, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement are partial translations of documents AD, AE, AF and AG, respectively, of the December 1, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement.

It is noted that English language Abstracts of the totality of the foreign patent documents AC through AK of the December 1, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement were also supplied.

The partial translations supplied with the March 30, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement are considered to be directed to the most relevant portions of the respective Japanese language documents supplied by the December 1, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement and, thus, further point to the believed relevancy of those Japanese language documents, warranting consideration of same by the Examiner.

It is submitted that the partial translations are not themselves "Foreign Patent Documents" and, hence, are not to be properly listed under that category on the Form PTO-1449 as asserted by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowance. Instead, they are properly listed as "Other References".

Accordingly, it is submitted that the partial translations were fully entitled to be considered by the Examiner, as a statement of relevancy of the Japanese language published application documents supplied by the Information Disclosure Statement filed December 1, 2003.

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Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial and sign the associated Form PTO-1449 to confirm the foregoing considerations and to forward same to the undersigned as evidenced thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

July 25, 2005

By: _____

H. J. Staas

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COPY

Attorney Docket No. 122.1572

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yasushi HARA, et al.

Application No.: 10/724,293

Group Art Unit:

Filed: December 1, 2003

Examiner:

For: LIGHT-GUIDING PLATE, LIGHTING DEVICE AND DISPLAY DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. ☒ Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. ☒ Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c. ☐ An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. ☐ English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
- 1e. ☐ Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
- 1f. ☐ List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g. ☐ List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b):

(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)

- 2a. ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a Continued Prosecution Application under § 1.53(d);
- 2b. ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- 2c. ☒ Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- 2d. ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

3. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND
- (Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)*
- 3a. ☐ The §1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR
- 3b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
- ☐ enclosed.
- ☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.
4. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND
- 4a. ☐ The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND
- 4b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
- ☐ enclosed.
- ☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.
5. ☐ Statement under § 1.97(e) *(applicable if Item 3a or Item 4a is checked)*
- (Check either Item 5a or 5b)*
- 5a. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 5b. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
6. ☐ This is a continuation/divisional/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).
- (Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b)*
- 6a. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. __, filed on __, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
- 6b. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. __, filed on __, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.

7. ☐ This is a continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

(Check either Item 7a or 7b)

- 7a. ☐ The Issue Fee has not been paid.
7b. ☐ A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR § 1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114, after payment of the Issue Fee, is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.53(d)(1)(ii) or 37 CFR 1.114(a), respectively.

8. ☒ This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

(Check either Item 8a or 8b)

- 8a. ☒ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 1, 2003. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on December 1, 2003.
8b. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98, mailed ____.

9. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:

(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)

- 9a. ☐ satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP § 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, 8th Ed.)
9b. ☐ set forth in the application.
9c. ☐ satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
9d. ☐ enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.

10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

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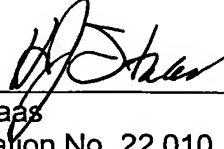
11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Dated: March 30, 2004
1201 New York Ave., N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

By: _____


H. J. Staas
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Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 122.1572	APPLICATION NO. 10/724,293
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Yasushi HARA, et al.	
		FILING DATE December 1, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,961,197	10/1999	Watai et al.			
	AB						
	AC						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AD							
	AE							
	AF							

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

							TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AG	Partial translation of JP 9-166713						
	AH	Partial translation of JP 10-253957						
	AI	Partial translation of JP 2000-260216						
	AJ	Partial translation of JP 2002-216522						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	